

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 160465

62

ORIGIN NSF-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-05 ABF-01 FSE-00 AGR-10

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 HEW-06

HUD-02 INR-07 INT-05 LOC-01 NASA-02 NSAE-00 OMB-01

SMI-01 TRSE-00 /065 R

66611

DRAFTED BY: NSF/OIP:RRRONKIN:VLL

APPROVED BY: OES/SCI/MBPMSBEAUBINE

NSF/OIP:BBARTHOCH

OES/APT/BMP:AERICHMOND (INFO)

NEA/AFN:LMURRAY (INFO)

----- 096981

P 082215Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 160465

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TPHY OSCI TGEN TS

SUBJECT: NSF/SFCP. NSF GRANT GOIP-7503687 TO ENIT FOR CO-
OPERATIVE PROJECT WITH UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.

REF: RONKIN/LOGAN TELCON 6/30/75

1. SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF NSF LETTER OF 6/30/75 TO DEAN
LATIRI IS REPRODUCED BELOW PER REFTELCON:

2. QUOTE. I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REFER TO UNDERSTANDINGS
WHICH WE REACHED ON MAY 30, REGARDING THE JOINT COOPERATIVE
GEOTECHNICAL RESEARCH PROJECT BETWEEN ENIT AND THE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, FUNDED BY NSF GRANT
NO. 01P75-03687.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 160465

3. WE AGREED (AMONG OTHER THINGS) ON THE DESIRABILITY OF
CONTINUING THE PROJECT AS A JOINT EFFORT BETWEEN THE SAME TWO
INSTITUTIONS AND INVOLVING AS PRINCIPAL SCIENTISTS DR. MEHMET
SHERIF AND YOURSELF. BUT WE ALSO IDENTIFIED TWO PROBLEM AREAS

WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED IF THE PROJECT IS TO ACHIEVE THE BEST SCIENTIFIC YIELD OF WHICH IT IS CAPABLE. THOSE AREAS ARE (1) DEFINITION OF FINANCIAL AND PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE U.S. SCIENTIST AND (2) UNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THE PRINCIPAL SCIENTISTS REGARDING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT. IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS I SHALL PROPOSE APPROACHES TO THESE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.

PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

4. THE U.S. SCIENTIST CURRENTLY RECEIVES HIS EXPENSES FROM THE NSF GRANT TO ENIT, BUT BY PAYMENT THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. ALTHOUGH NSF HAS RESERVED THESE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE BY A WELL-ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE, THE FUNDS DO NOT PASS THROUGH ENIT AND THE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THEM IS SEEN BY ENIT TO BE BLURRED. ENIT THEREFORE OBJECTS TO THIS PROCEDURE IN PRINCIPLE EVEN THOUGH IT HAS GIVEN IT TEMPORARY APPROVAL.

5. I UNDERSTOOD ON MAY 30 THAT ENIT WOULD NOT OBJECT IF THE U.S. PERSONNEL WORKING ON THE PROJECT IN TUNISIA WERE TO RECEIVE THEIR EXPENSES FROM, AND BE ACCOUNTABLE DIRECTLY TO, THEIR OWN INSTITUTIONS. ACCORDINGLY I CONSULTED OFFICIALS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON AND AM GLAD TO REPORT THAT THE UNIVERSITY WILL ACCEPT FULL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR A DINAR GRANT COVERING THE EXPENSES OF PARTICIPATION OF ITS PERSONNEL IN TUNISIA.

6. THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION THEREFORE PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING MECHANISM FOR FUNDING THIS JOINT PROJECT FOR THE SECOND AND THIRD YEARS: FUNDS FOR ENIT PARTICIPATION WILL BE GRANTED BY NSF TO ENIT; PERSONNEL OF ENIT WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE TO ENIT FOR THESE FUNDS. A SEPARATE GRANT WILL BE MADE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON; ITS PERSONNEL WILL BE ACCOUNTABLE TO THE UNIVERSITY. THE DINARS GRANTED TO THE UNIVERSITY WILL BE DISBURSED IN TUNIS BY THE AMERICAN EMBASSY TO A DESIGNATED AGENT OF THE UNIVERSITY UNDER CONDITIONS AGREED UPON BY NSF AND THE UNIVERSITY. AS YOU KNOW, NSF HOLDS GRANTEE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 160465

INSTITUTIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR PRUDENT MANAGEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS AND GRANT ACCOUNTS ARE SUBJECT TO AUDIT BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

7. THE TOTAL OF THE TWO DINAR GRANTS CANNOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT NOW GRANTED BY NSF FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING PROJECT. THIS IS CHIEFLY BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTED SUPPLY OF DINARS AVAILABLE TO NSF FOR ALL ACTIVITIES IN TUNISIA.

8. IF ENIT CONCURS WITH THIS ARRANGEMENT THE NEXT STEP IS TO PREPARE SEPARATE BUDGETS. BECAUSE MOST OF THE WORK IS TO BE PERFORMED AT ENIT AND YOU ARE THE TUNISIAN CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, I SUGGEST THAT YOU DRAFT BOTH BUDGETS AND PASS THEM TO DR. SHERIF FOR COMMENT AND CONCURRENCE BY

APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
WASHINGTON.

ROLE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

9. NSF DOES NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO FINANCE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES. IT SEES THE GEOTECHNICAL RESEARCH PROJECT AS A TRUE JOINT EFFORT WITH SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLANNING AND CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT. FURTHERMORE, NSF CONCURS WITH THE EXPECTATIONS OF ENIT AND THE UNIVERSITY, THAT BOTH INSTITUTIONS WILL RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL SCIENTIFIC BENEFITS FROM PARTICIPATING.

10. THE NSF VIEW IS THAT BOTH CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS HAVE PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL OBLIGATIONS TO THE PROJECT AND TO THE JOINT PLANNING AND SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF IT. IT IS EXPECTED THAT BOTH WILL EXERT ALL POSSIBLE EFFORT TO OPTIMIZE JOINT ACTION. AT THE SAME TIME, EACH CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR REMAINS AN EMPLOYEE OF, AND REPORTS ADMINISTRATIVELY TO, HIS OWN INSTITUTION.

1. AT A PROFESSIONAL LEVEL, JOINT PROJECTS GAIN BENEFITS FROM FULL, FRANK, AND OPEN DISCUSSION OF PLANS, ISSUES, REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE THESE ARE PUT INTO FINAL FORM, SO THAT THESE FINAL DOCUMENTS REFLECT THE BEST COMBINED THINKING OF BOTH SIDES. IN ADDITION, PRINCIPAL SCIENTISTS IN SUCCESSFUL, JOINT PROJECTS USUALLY SHARE WITH EACH OTHER THEIR PLANS FOR PERSONAL PARTICIPA-
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 160465

TION (FOR EXAMPLE, INVOLVING ABSENCE ON TRAVEL) OR THEIR IDEAS ABOUT MINOR, BUT SIGNIFICANT, CHANGES IN ORIENTATION OF THE PROJECT BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE REACHED.

ACTIONS REQUIRED

12. NSF IS COMMITTED BY THE GRANT LETTER OF FEBRUARY 7, 1975, TO TWO MORE YEARS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT, IF THE RESULTS ACHIEVED APPEAR TO WARRANT FURTHER SUPPORT AND FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE. SCIENTIFIC RESULTS THUS FAR CLEARLY INDICATE TO NSF THAT THIS PROJECT REQUIRES BOTH A REVISED METHOD OF FUNDING AND MORE EXPLICIT UNDERSTANDINGS REGARDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING SCIENTISTS TO THE PROJECT AND TO EACH OTHER.

13. TO OBTAIN NSF CONSIDERATION OF CONTINUED FUNDING, KINDLY PREPARE A BRIEF STATEMENT CONTAINING THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN THE FIRST YEAR.

2. BRIEF TECHNICAL STATEMENT OF PROPOSED CHANGES, IF ANY,
FOR YEARS 2 AND 3.

3. A STATEMENT OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OR COMMITMENTS
TO BE MADE BY ENIT AND WASHINGTON (PROFESSIONAL STAFF, SUPPORT
STAFF, FACILITIES).

4. A DESCRIPTION OF METHODS TO BE EMPLOYED IN JOINT PLANNING
AND DECISION MAKING IN THE SCIENTIFIC MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT.

5. SEPARATE 2-YEAR BUDGETS FOR ENIT AND WASHINGTON.

14. THE STATEMENT SHOULD BE SIGNED BY

1. THE CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF ENIT; I.E.,
THE PERSON FROM ENIT WHO IS SCIENTIFICALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR
THE PROJECT AND WHO INTENDS TO DEVOTE A PRINCIPAL PORTION OF
HIS OWN TOTAL EFFORT TO IT.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 160465

2. THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL OR ENIT WHOSE
SIGNATURE COMMITS ENIT TO THE PRUDENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
OF THE PROJECT. (IN THIS PROJECT YOU WOULD PRESUMABLY
FILL ROLES 1 AND 2).

3. THE CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF WASHINGTON, PRESUMABLY DR. SHERIF.

4. THE APPROPRIATE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.

15. THE LETTER SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. SELIM SELCUK OF
THIS OFFICE, WHO IS PROGRAM MANAGER FOR TUNISIA.

16. A FINAL WORD ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN
EMBASSY IN TUNIS. THE EMBASSY STAFF CAN FACILITATE
COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN ENIT AND NSF, AND DISBURSE FUNDS
TO PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE THEM. ALL COMMUNICATIONS
REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROJECT OR ITS SCIENTIFIC
PROGRAM SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. SELCUK AT NSF. END
QUOTE.

17. EMBASSY MAY WISH SHARE ABOVE TEXT WITH DAN LATIRI AND DR.
SHERIF IN ADVANCE ITS DELIVERY BY MAIL, TO ALLOW MAXIMAL TIME
FOR RESPONSE BEFORE DR. SHERIF'S DEPARTURE FROM TUNISIA.
KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC GRANTS, UNIVERSITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE160465
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NSF/OIP:RRRONKIN:VLL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 NA
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750235-0926
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507104/baaaaorf.tel
Line Count: 214
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NSF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JAN 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TGEN, TS
To: TUNIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006